

REMARKS

By this Amendment, non-elected claims 10-15 are cancelled. In accordance with Applicant's prior telephonic election of Group I, claims 1-9, which is hereby affirmed, only elected claims 1-9 are pending in the application.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate Rejections

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication in the Office Action that the pending obviousness-type double patenting rejections can be overcome by the filing of a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,265,170. Such a Terminal Disclaimer and a Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) are attached to obviate these rejections. Authorization to charge the corresponding fee to our Deposit Account No. 03-0075 is provided in the attached Fee Transmittal Form.

Information Disclosure Statement Acknowledgment

The Examiner has not returned an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 attached to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed April 18, 2002, listing four foreign patent documents. As a courtesy to the Examiner, copies of that IDS, including the Form PTO-1449, Transmittal Form and a date-stamped postcard receipt from the PTO are attached. Copies of the four cited references are also attached as a courtesy to the Examiner.

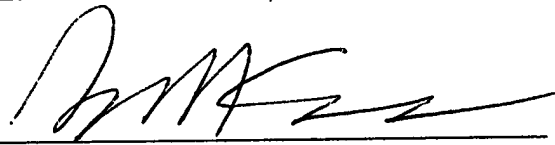
Application No. 09/998,155

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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February 27, 2003

Please charge or credit  
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